

**ABSOLUTE RATING:** Good  
**IMPROVEMENT RATING:** Below Average

Number of districts with students like ours: 18.

The absolute ratings for those districts ranged from below average to good. For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to average.

#### Definitions of District Rating Terms

**Excellent-** District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

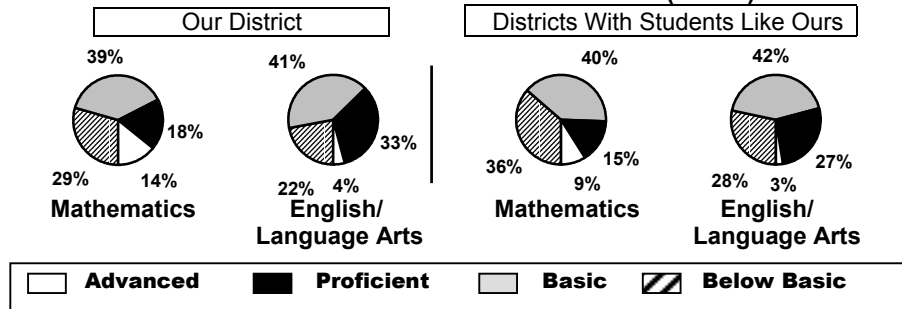
**Good-** District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Average-** District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Below Average-** District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Unsatisfactory-** District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

### PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



#### DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- **Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- **Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- **Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- **Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

#### PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

Student Group	Percent of Seniors Passing the Exit Exam	Percent of Seniors Qualifying for LIFE Scholarships	Percent of Students Scoring Basic or Above on the PACT	
			ELA	Math
<b>All Students</b>	92.5%	18.7%	78%	70.6%
Students with disabilities other than Speech	78.4%	1.9%	47.1%	40.1%
Students without disabilities	93.8%	20.1%	82.8%	75.3%
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	91.1%	19.1%	74.2%	70.2%
Female	92.3%	18.6%	82.4%	71.4%
<b>Ethnic Group</b>				
African-American	83.0%	5.5%	58.8%	47.9%
Hispanic	78.9%	21.4%	75.0%	70.9%
White	94.3%	23.0%	85.6%	79.3%
Other	89.5%	40.0%	84.6%	83.8%
<b>Lunch Status</b>				
Free/ Reduced-Price Lunch	85.9%	5.4%	68.5%	59.3%
Pay for Lunch	94.6%	24.0%	89.3%	83.8%

### TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	First-time Examinees		
	1999	2000	2001
Our district			
Passed all 3 subtests	64.9%	66.3%	69.9%
Passed 2 subtests	18.5%	17.3%	16.9%
Passed 1 subtest	10.3%	11.2%	8.9%
Passed no subtest	6.2%	5.2%	4.3%
Districts with students like ours			
Passed all 3 subtests	62.2%	66.2%	68.5%
Passed 2 subtests	18.7%	17.6%	16.6%
Passed 1 subtest	11.3%	10.3%	9.4%
Passed no subtest	7.7%	5.9%	5.5%

### LIFE scholarships at four-year institutions

	Eligible	Percent of Seniors Meeting Grade Point Average Requirement	Meeting SAT/ACT Requirement
Our District	18.7%	35.5%	20.9%
Districts Like Ours	19.2%	51.3%	20.7%

**College Admissions Tests:** Tests that are frequently used in the college admissions process.

	SAT Verbal		SAT Math		SAT Total		ACT English		ACT Math		ACT Reading		ACT Science		ACT Total	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
District	486	485	492	508	978	993	18.7	18.1	18.6	18.9	19.3	18.4	18.7	18.9	18.9	18.7
State	484	486	482	488	966	974	18.7	18.8	19.2	19.3	19.5	19.5	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.3
Nation	505	506	514	514	1019	1020	20.5	20.5	20.7	20.7	21.4	21.3	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0

*These tests were administered to samples of students:*

**Terra Nova Test:** A national, norm-referenced achievement test.

Percent scoring in upper half

	Reading		Language		Math		Total	
	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Grade 4	47.8	50.0	43.1	50.0	58.4	50.0	50.5	50.0
Grade 7	45.8	50.0	59.4	50.0	54.7	50.0	53.9	50.0
Grade 10	59.6	50.0	59.5	50.0	62.4	50.0	59.1	50.0

**National Assessment of Education Progress :** A national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

#### Percents of Students

Test	Grade	Year	Advanced		Proficient		Basic		Below Basic	
			State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Reading	4	1998	4	6	18	23	33	32	45	39
Writing	8	1998	0	1	15	23	64	59	21	17
Mathematics	4	2000	2	3	16	23	42	43	40	31

## DISTRICT PROFILE

### INDICATORS OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

	This District	Change from Last Year	Districts With Students Like Ours	Median District
<b>DISTRICT</b>				
• Dollars per student	\$7,027	N/A	\$6,303	\$6,464
• Prime instructional time	90%	Up from 89.3%	89.8%	89.4%
• Student-teacher ratio	21.2 to 1	N/A	21 to 1	20.2 to 1
• Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.1%	N/A	0.4%	0.6%
<b>STUDENTS (n=28,055)</b>				
• Advanced placement/ int'l baccalaureate program exam success ratio	64.2%	N/A	48.7%	43.8%
• Attendance Rate	95.7%	Up from 95.6%	95.8%	95.7%
• Taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	6.3%	N/A	4%	5.8%
• Taking PACT (Math) off grade level	6%	N/A	3.7%	4.5%
• Retention rate	4.8%	Up from 4.6%	5.9%	6.0%
<b>TEACHERS (n=2,069)</b>				
• Professional development days per teacher	10 Days	Up from 7	7.8 Days	7.8 Days
• Attendance rate	95.4%	Up from 94.8%	95.3%	95.2%
• Advanced Degrees	41.1%	Up from 40.7%	45.8%	44.4%
• Continuing contracts	79%	Down from 80.8%	81.9%	81.4%
• Out-of-field permits	3.1%	Up from 2.5%	2.2%	2.2%
• Teachers returning from the previous year	92.3%	Down from 93.5%	90.5%	89.5%
• Average salary	\$38,863	Up 4.9%	\$37,724	\$37,143

## DISTRICT FACTS

<b>DISTRICT</b>				
• Annual dropout rate	2%	Up from 1.4%	3%	2.9%
• Percentage spent on teacher salaries	50.5%	N/A	50.7%	50.9%
• Superintendent's years in the district	4	N/A	4.3	3.5
• Parent conferences	89.8%	N/A	84.1%	81.0%
• Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	N/A	Excellent	Excellent
• Number of schools	42	No change	12	8
• Number of alternative schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of charter schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of magnet schools	0	N/A	0	0
• Portable classrooms	12.2%	N/A	7.1%	6.5%
• Attendance rate of district office staff	96.4%	N/A	97.5%	97.5%
• Average administrative salary	\$65,153	Up 3.5%	\$64,747	\$64,098
<b>STUDENTS</b>				
• Enrollment in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Percent of completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Suspensions and expulsions	1,999	N/A	145	100
• Percent eligible for state gifted and talented programs	13%	Down from 14.3%	13.8%	10.5%
• Percentage with disabilities other than speech	13.1%	Up from 11.8%	10.5%	10.5%

Horry School District  
P.O. Box 260005  
Conway, SC 29528

**Grades** K-12

**Enrollment:** 28,055 Students

**Superintendent** Dr. Gerrita Postlewait 843 488-6717

**Board Chair** Helen M. Smith 843-236-3333

## THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual District Report Card	2001
-----------------------------	------

### DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Horry County Schools is on a mission to be the state's top performing school district in terms of student achievement by 2005. To be "First in Five," we must continue, and in some areas even accelerate, the improvement that our schools are experiencing.

Our District has aligned its efforts around a comprehensive set of performance goals that defines expectations for student achievement, safety, attendance, and parental involvement at various grade levels. During the 2000-01 school year, the district met most of those annual performance goals; we showed improvement in 93 percent of the areas measured. Our goal is the continuation of that growth in student learning.

We have established some lofty long-range goals, such as having 90 percent of students in grades 3-8 meeting or exceeding grade level standards on PACT; having 90 percent of kindergartners and first graders reading on or above grade level (we are currently at 80 percent); and meeting or exceeding the national average on the SAT and ACT college entrance exams. The 2001 graduating class gained 11 points on the average SAT score and claimed a record-breaking \$13.1 million in scholarships. We are making steady progress.

Horry County Schools is a nationally-recognized leader in technology and has invested more than \$20 million to provide the latest learning tools for students. We are a rapidly growing district in the midst of a \$173 million building program to build 10 new schools and renovate nine others. All of these efforts are to enhance the learning opportunities for our students.

Schools brought national honors to the district this year: Forestbrook Elementary School was named as the most recent of five district National Blue Ribbon Schools, and the Academy of Arts, Science and Technology earned the distinction of being named a New American High School. We have had a Palmetto's Finest award winner or state finalist in each of the last three years.

Reaching our goal of being the state's top performing school district would be the best gift that we could give this county's children. A quality education is most important for the students, but it is also important to us as a community – speaking volumes about that which we value.

We are proud to share this our first state report card. We invite your input, your support, and your help. Join us on the journey to become "First In Five."

Gerrita Postlewait, Superintendent

### South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at

[www.myschools.com](http://www.myschools.com)